

scenery reminiscent of Alaska, visitors might spot snowshoe hares. Our colder, tumbling waters also support trout that are an angler's dream, as well as a rafter's or kayaker's delight.

Unlike its name, West Virginia's New River is actually very old, perhaps one of the oldest rivers in the world. Flowing in a generally south-to-north course through the Appalachian Mountains from North Carolina to West Virginia, where it merges with the Gauley River to form the Kanawaha River, the New River goes against the west-to-east flow that most other nearby rivers take, emptying into the Mississippi River rather than the Chesapeake Bay. Near Fayetteville, WV, the New River is spanned by the spectacular New River Gorge Bridge, featured on the reverse of the West Virginia State quarter coin. Each autumn, the community celebrates Bridge Day, allowing parachute-clad jumpers to leap from the highest vehicular bridge in the Americas to the New River some 876 feet below.

For centuries, West Virginia has been a place where people could escape summer's heat and enjoy the great outdoors. In the eastern panhandle, the spa town of Berkeley Springs has welcomed visitors since the days when George Washington's family and friends laid out a town around the warm medicinal springs that bubble to the surface. In southern West Virginia, the majestic Greenbrier resort in White Sulphur Springs has hosted Presidents and other distinguished guests since 1778.

West Virginia has also long been a nearby winter getaway for snow-seekers from milder climates. Since the Canaan Valley was discovered by air in the 1960s, West Virginia has become a skiing destination for downhillers and cross-country skiers. In addition to Canaan Valley, Snowshoe, Winterplace, Alpine Lake, Timberline, and Elk River offer skiing, tubing, snowboarding and sledding within easy driving distance of major metropolitan areas from Pittsburgh to Atlanta.

Should a visitor come to West Virginia in June, he or she would be treated to beautiful misty views of tree-covered mountains stretching into the distance. In the foreground, wildflowers would be blooming in sunlit meadows and along roads that curve along steep hillsides or cross deep-flowing rivers and streams tumbling over massive boulders. In the shadowed hollows, dense stands of rhododendron, the State flower, would be coming into bloom. Later in the year, the hills come alive with vibrant color as the State tree, the sugar maple, bursts into flaming red, blazing against the deep russet of oaks, the bright yellow of tulip poplars, and the rich, deep green of spruce and pine. In the winter, nature's palette becomes more stark, as leafless trees etch sharp designs against crisp white snow. The West Virginia State bird, the northern cardinal, offers a bright spot of crimson on

the otherwise monochromatic scenery. But every evening—winter, summer, spring or fall—the night sky will come alive with more stars than it is possible to count, as God sprinkles his blessings on West Virginia.

COMMENDING SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, with great pleasure I congratulate the senior Senator from Hawaii, Mr. DANIEL INOUE, for becoming the second longest-serving Senator in history. He achieved this distinction last Friday when he became only the second person to have served in the Senate for 17,327 days.

I also want to use this opportunity to congratulate Senator INOUE on what I am sure he considers a bigger, and even more important event in his life, the birth of his first grandchild, Mary Margaret "Maggie" Inouye. Maggie was born on April 20 to Ken and Jessica Inouye, the son and daughter-in-law of our esteemed colleague. I wish all of them the best of health and happiness.

I have remarked many times on this floor that Senator INOUE is my "No. 1 hero." No one has ever served our country more extensively, or more bravely and with more loyalty and determination, than has Senator INOUE.

During World War II, he served in the famed 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated Army unit in the history of United States. In recognition of his war heroics, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Congressional Medal of Honor, making him one of only seven Senators to have been awarded our Nation's highest military honor.

In 1963, he became the first Japanese American ever to serve in the U.S. Congress. And in this Chamber he has served his State and our country with great distinction. Senator INOUE has served on the Senate Watergate Committee, the Congressional Iran Contra Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee, and as Secretary of the Democratic Conference.

And during his long and productive career in this Chamber, he has become my dear friend. I was honored and pleased when he was the person who nominated me for my third term as Senate whip in 1975. Foremost, I have always appreciated his deep loyalty to the Senate and to me when I was the Senate Democratic leader and he was serving as secretary of the Democratic Conference.

Now, Senator INOUE has achieved another milestone in a career filled with achievements and successes, and I commend him on it.

Congratulations Senator INOUE, my friend, my colleague and my "No. 1 hero!"

TRIBUTE TO HARRY MORGAN HOE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to an honored Ken-

tuckian, Mr. Harry Morgan Hoe. A graduate of the Kentucky Military Institute, Harry's leadership skill and valor were on full display at the age of 19, when he joined the 4th Infantry Division and stormed the beaches of Normandy. For his service, he was awarded both the Silver and Bronze Stars, among other medals. Upon returning to civilian life, Harry earned a degree in business and more importantly, at least to Harry, met his wife Mary while at college. The couple returned to Middlesboro after graduation and Harry joined in the family business—a foundry. He would go on to serve his community as chairman of the Clear Creek Baptist Bible College and his work with the Cumberland Gap National Park board, the Mountain Laurel Festival board, as well as several other service organizations.

While I could certainly go on about the character of Harry Hoe, let me conclude by saying that Harry Hoe's impact in Middlesboro, Kentucky, should be a model by which we all pattern our approach to leadership—built on humility and grace.

Mr. President, the Middlesboro Daily News recently published a profile story on Mr. Harry Hoe. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Middlesboro Daily News, May 5, 2010]

"HARRY HOE—AN ENDURING LEADER"

By Lorie Settles

Harry Morgan Hoe began his life 85-years ago in Middlesboro. He remembers a town much different than the one most of us are familiar with today—where groceries were delivered and children walked to school. The simplicity of life remains one of his dearest memories.

"Growing up here was a real treat," Harry recalled, "everything was free and easy. The town was growing; they were building buildings and paving streets." Harry's generation was the first of his family to grow up in Middlesboro. In 1909, J.R. Hoe, Harry's grandfather, moved his family to Kentucky from Pittsburgh, PA after a labor strike put an end to his career as the superintendent of a large steel mill. He purchased the town foundry and re-named it J.R. Hoe and Sons. Together, he and his five sons worked long hours to create the business Middlesboro knows today.

"My father worked like a dog," Hoe remembered. "He poured 20,000 pounds of iron per day and the things had to be carried, by hand, to the railroad station." Harry went to Louisville to attend high school at the Kentucky Military Institute, from which he graduated in 1943. At the age of 17, just before graduation, he received his draft notice for World War II. After a few months of training, he briefly returned home to see his family, and then shipped out. "We had all gone through basic training; we'd done the physical exercises and the bayonets and it was fun . . . It never got through to me that we were training to kill," he remembered. He arrived with the 4th Infantry Division on the beaches of Normandy shortly thereafter. "I served under General Patton," Harry recalls. "He said: Half of you guys are not going home, you know that don't you? You're over